

APPENDIX A

1.-29. (Canceled)

30. (Original) A system for providing a user with a plurality of guaranteed minimum retirement income payments, comprising:

an equity module to receive an income generating payment and to output a periodic retirement income payment amount wherein the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than, equal to, or less than a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount if the income generating payments received are received according to a predetermined payment schedule; and

an adjustment module for comparing the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, and for outputting to the user at least the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, with the adjustment module storing a balance in an adjustment account if the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the equity module comprises at least one of a variable annuity module, a fixed annuity module, a mutual funds module, a variable life module, a single premium immediate annuity (SPIA) module, and an immediate variable annuity module.

32. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the periodic retirement income payment may be calculated at one of the following annually, biennially, semi-annually, quarterly, monthly, bi-monthly, semi-monthly, weekly, and bi-weekly.

33. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount may be calculated at one of the following annually, biennially, semi-annually, quarterly, monthly, bi-monthly, semi-monthly, weekly, and bi-weekly.

34. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the adjustment account balance is recovered by the performance of a unitized investment trust or an index.

35. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount is predetermined by the user.

36. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount is predetermined by the total premium payments made by the user during an accumulation period.

37.-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the output of the adjustment module to the user is based on the balance in the adjustment account.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the output of the adjustment module to the user is equal to the periodic retirement income payment amount, if the adjustment account balance is zero and the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the income generating payment comprises a plurality of predetermined scheduled premium payments.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the income generating payment comprises a plurality of predetermined premium payments.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the income generating payment comprises a single premium payment.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 39 wherein the income generating payment comprises a plurality of premium payments.

51. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount is determined by the amount and timing of the premium payments made by the user during the accumulation period.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the adjustment account balance is forgiven as a death benefit during the annuitization period or at the expiration of the certain period, whichever occurs later.

53. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein an administrator retains a secured interest in future periodic retirement income payment amounts, if the adjustment account reflects a balance.

54. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 52 wherein the administrator is a financial services carrier.

55. (Previously Presented) A method for providing a user with a plurality of guaranteed minimum retirement income payments, comprising:

receiving an income generating payment at an equity module;

outputting a periodic retirement income payment amount, using the equity module, wherein the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than, equal to, or less than a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount if the income generating payments received are received according to a predetermined payment schedule, and wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount is defined by the user;

comparing the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount using an adjustment module;

outputting, using the adjustment module, to the user at least the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, the adjustment module storing a balance in an adjustment account if the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54 further comprising the step of forgiving the adjustment account balance as a death benefit during the annuitization period or at the expiration of the certain period, whichever occurs later.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the equity module comprises an equity indexed annuity or an equity indexed immediate annuity.

58. (New) A system for providing a user with a plurality of guaranteed minimum retirement income payments, comprising:

an equity module to receive an income generating payment and to output a periodic retirement income payment amount wherein the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than, equal to, or less than a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount if the income generating payments received are received according to a predetermined payment schedule;

an adjustment module for: (1) comparing the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, (2) determining if the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than, equal to, or less than a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, and (3) outputting to the user at least the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, with the adjustment module storing a balance in an adjustment account when the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount.

59. (New) A method for providing a user with a plurality of guaranteed minimum retirement income payments, comprising:

- receiving an income generating payment at an equity module;
- outputting a periodic retirement income payment amount, using the equity module, wherein the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than, equal to, or less than a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount if the income generating payments received are received according to a predetermined payment schedule, and wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount is defined by the user;
- comparing the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount using an adjustment module;
- determining if the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than, equal to, or less than a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount
- outputting, using the adjustment module, to the user at least the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, the adjustment module storing a balance in an adjustment account when the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount.